

species. Mr. L. Layard describes the bird as not uncommon. The egg is of a darkish brown generally, but irregularly speckled and blotched with very dark madder-brown specks and blotches of various sizes. Axis 12'', diam. 9''.

TURNIX OCELLATA (Scop.) ?

A second Quail's egg is sent, which from our knowledge of eggs of birds of this genus, we fully believe to belong to this species.

It is of a dirty pale-brown ground, profusely spotted with black and dark-brown speckles, chiefly at the obtuse end. The small end is rather acutely pointed. Axis 12'', diam. 8''.

XIII.—*Descriptions of Six new Species of Indian Birds.*

By ALLAN HUME, C.B.

1. CHRYSOMITRIS THIBETANA.

Dimensions.—Length 4''·75, wing 2''·70, tail 1''·9, tarsus 0''·4, bill at front 0''·35.

Description (only female obtained).—Legs and feet brown; bill brown, fleshy on lower mandible. *Plumage*: Head, neck, back, and scapulars dingy olive-green, each feather with a dark brown central stripe; a long supercilium, continued backwards round the ear-coverts, and an ill-defined patch on the nape greenish yellow; ear-coverts brownish olive; lower parts pale yellow, albescent on the middle of the abdomen and towards the vent; the sides and flanks with dusky central streaks; lower tail-coverts pale yellow, each feather with a linear lanceolate blackish brown central streak; rump and upper tail-coverts greenish yellow, with traces of central dusky streaks; quills and tail blackish brown, edged exteriorly with greenish yellow; the primaries very narrowly margined at the tips, and the tail-feathers on the inner webs with greyish white.

This is a true Siskin, agreeing perfectly in shape of bill with the European *C. spinus*, which our Indian *C. spinoides* does not.

The specimen described was obtained by L. Mandelli, Esq., on the borders of Sikkim and Thibet. It appears to me to be

distinct from the European bird; but I have not a sufficient series of the latter to be absolutely certain of this point.

2. DUMETICOLA CYANOCARPA.

Dimensions.—Length 7", wing 2".85, tail 3".4, tarsus 1".15 bill at front 0".45.

Description.—Bill, legs, and feet brown, the former dusky on the upper mandible. *Plumage*: The whole upper surface a very rich olive-brown, more or less tinged with ruddy, especially on the rump and upper tail-coverts; the tail-feathers a somewhat rufous brown, slightly more rufous at the margins; quills hair-brown, margined exteriorly with a ruddy olivaceous tinge; median and larger coverts olivaceous; lesser coverts and carpal joint of the wing more or less pure cyaneous; lower parts, including wing-lining, a sort of fulvous buff, shaded with dusky olive on the sides of the neck and throat and on the sides and flanks; centre of abdomen and vent nearly pure white; lower tail-coverts fulvous, mingled with olive-brown; lores and chin, and an indistinct supercilium, dull fulvous.

Although a considerably larger bird than any of the other known species, this is unquestionably structurally a true *Dumeticola*, corresponding in shape of wing, tail, bill, and feet with *Dumeticola affinis*, with a large series of which Mr. Brooks and I carefully compared it. The dull blue patch on the carpal joint would naturally awaken the suspicion that it was a female *Myiomela* or *Brachypteryx*; but it is unquestionably a *Dumeticola*. It was obtained in one of the low valleys in the interior of Sikkim by one of the Shikarees employed for me by Capt. Masson.

3. HORORNIS ERYTHROGENYS.

Dimensions.—Length 5", wing 2".25, tail 2", tarsus 0".68, mid toe and claw 0".7, bill at front 0".42.

Description.—Bill brown above, fleshy at gape and base of lower mandible; legs and feet pale fleshy, dusky at joints. *Plumage*: The whole upper surface, including wings and tail, a rich rufescent brown; lores, cheeks, ear-coverts, and a narrow line over the eye rich chestnut rufous; centre of chin

and throat and centre of abdomen nearly pure white; sides of neck and breast dull rufescent; sides of abdomen and flanks rufescent brown; wing-lining rufescent white.

This is a typical *Horornis*, if I rightly apprehend Mr. Hodgson's genus. The specimen was shot by Mr. William Masson on the 20th of May, 1870, below Darjeeling. It is very distinct from any species of *Horornis* or *Horeites* described by Messrs. Blyth, Hodgson, and Jerdon.

4. HOREITES BRUNNESCENS.

Dimensions.—Length 4".25, wing 2".2, tail 2", tarsus 0".82, bill at front 0".33.

Description.—Legs, feet, and bill pale brown, the latter darker on the upper mandible. *Plumage*: The whole upper surface, including the wing-coverts and the greater portion of the exterior webs of the quills, olivaceous, tinged with rufous more strongly on the head, and most conspicuously so on the exterior margins of the quills; the rest of the quills hair-brown; the tail pale brown, obsoletely barred and slightly tinged at the margin with rufous; a dull white stripe from the nostrils, over the eyes and ear-coverts; a dusky stripe under this latter through the lores, eyes, and ear coverts; lower surface pale dingy fulvous, more albescent on the throat and wing-lining.

This specimen I picked out of a collection made in the neighbourhood of Darjeeling by Mr. Gammie, of the Government chinchona plantation.

5. SIPHIA MINUTA.

Dimensions.—Length 4", wing 2".2, tail 1".77, tarsus 0".7, mid toe and claw 0".56, hind toe and claw 0".5, bill at front 0".25.

Description.—Bill blackish brown, fleshy on lower surface of lower mandible; legs and feet very pale fleshy brown. *Plumage*: Upper surface a very rich olive-brown, slightly tinged with rufous on the back, more conspicuously so on the rump; tail dull rufous; quills hair-brown, narrowly margined with dull rufous; chin, upper part of throat, wing-lining, flanks, and lower tail-coverts pure pale buff; lower portion of throat,

and lower portion of abdomen and vent, white; sides of neck, breast, and upper abdomen pale dingy brownish fulvous.

This species closely resembles both *Siphia tricolor* and the female of *Siphia leucomelanura*, but is decidedly distinct from either. It has no white about the tail, and differs from all the *Siphia* and *Erythrosterne* which I possess, as well as from *Anthipes moniliger*. The specimen was shot by Mr. William Masson on Mount Tongloo, in Sikkim.

6. DRYMÆPUS RUFESCENS.

Dimensions, male.—Length 7".12, expanse 7", tail from vent 3".38; wing 2".62, when closed reaches to within 2".5 of end of tail; feet, greatest length 1".38; tarsus 0".95; bill at front 0".5.

Another male.—Length 6".75, expanse 7".6, tail from vent 3".55, wings when closed reach to within 3" of end of tail.

Another male.—Length 6".4, expanse 7".6, wings when closed reach to within 2".45 of end of tail.

Female.—Length 6".1, expanse 6".75, tail from vent 2".6, wings when closed reach to within 2" of end of tail.

Description.—Legs and feet fleshy, or light fleshy brown; claws dusky; irides brown, light brown, brownish orange, and deep yellow; bill blackish or dusky horny, fleshy or greyish at base of lower mandible. *Plumage*: Whole upper surface, including tail and greater and median coverts, tertiaries, and outer webs of primaries and secondaries, rich rufous brown in full plumage, grey-brown more or less tinged or overlaid with rufous in young birds; tail very distinctly and finely but obsoletely barred, all the feathers except the central ones narrowly tipped with fulvous white, with a more or less distinct penultimate dusky bar; the young birds with a good deal of white on the inner webs of the lateral feathers, which is entirely wanting in adults; lores and a stripe over the eye fulvous white; ear-coverts, sides of neck and breast, and some of the lesser wing-coverts about the carpal joints a greyish brown, the ear-coverts more or less mottled with fulvous white; lower parts pale fulvous, albescent on the chin and throat and middle of abdomen, tinged on the breast

with grey, more purely buff on lower tail-coverts and wing-lining, and more rufescent on tibial plumes; inner webs of primaries and secondaries hair-brown. The young birds are much paler and more albescent on the lower surface.

This is a very distinct species, widely spread over the country. I have it from Mount Aboo, Gurhwal, and Kamoah, collected by Dr. King; from Niher, Mahableschwur, collected by the Rev. H. Bruce; from Naipoor, collected by F. R. Blewitt, Esq.; from Etawah, collected by myself; and Mr. Brooks tells me he has it from two or three other localities. The birds vary very much in size, the young being considerably smaller than the adults, and the females being always much smaller than the males. Some quite young birds entirely lack the rufescent tinge which is so characteristic of this species, and which, in the newly moulted adult, approaches that of *Pyctorhis sinensis*. The plumage fades much by exposure; and adults just previously to moulting are met with of a dull rufous grey.

I may add that when recently staying with me, Mr. Brooks went very carefully over all these species, comparing them with nearly allied forms. He agrees with me both as to their novelty and in assigning them to the genera under which I have placed them.

XIV.—*Descriptions of Two Genera of Paradiseidæ, with remarks on some of the Species.* By D. G. ELLIOT, F.L.S., F.Z.S., &c.

THE species commonly placed by authors in the genus *Sericulus*, and known to ornithologists as *S. aureus*, presents so many characters not found in the Regent Bird, that it has seemed to me necessary to acknowledge the generic name *Xanthomelus* proposed for it by Bonaparte (Ann. d. Sc. Nat. ser. iv. Zool. 1854, p. 122; C. R. xxxviii. 1854, p. 538), and to separate it entirely from the species with which it has generally been united. That *Sericulus* has not been deemed the proper genus for this bird is evident by the way it has been removed by different authors from one genus to another. Thus Linnæus considered it an Oriole, and placed it in his genus *Oriolus*. Many authors have given it a position in *Paradisea* among the typical Birds of